



Crop Progress and Condition

USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office
Herman Ellison, State Statistician
P. O. Box 1659
Richmond, VA 23218-1659
(804) 771-2493
Homepage: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/va>

In Cooperation with:
U.S. Dept. of Commerce - NOAA
Virginia Tech
Virginia State University
Virginia Cooperative Extension Service
Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

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Agricultural News: Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.4. Cooler temperatures and rain have limited crop progress and fieldwork; some areas were flooded and various locations had frost conditions. Farming activities for the week included planting corn and applying fertilizers.

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 04/22/18

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	-	11	86	3
Subsoil	-	15	82	3

- Represents zero.

CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 04/22/18

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Barley	1	8	31	58	2
Hay, Alfalfa	1	4	40	53	2
Hay, Other	2	7	40	50	1
Winter Wheat	1	3	19	68	9
Pasture	4	21	44	25	6

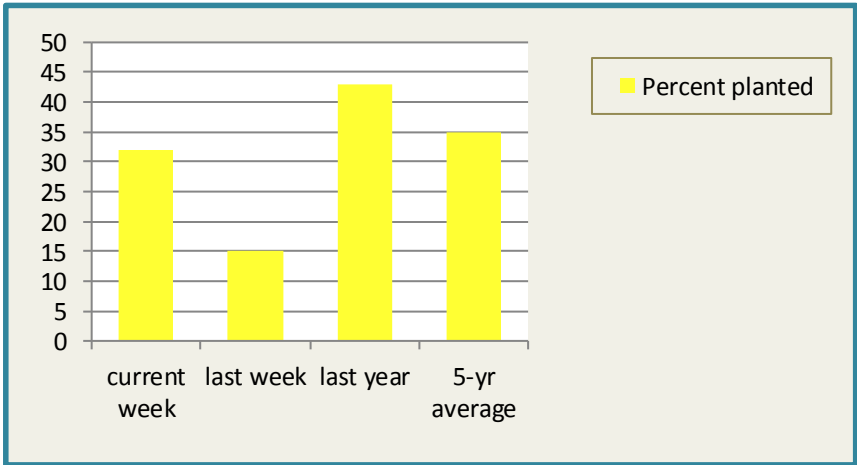
-Represents zero.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 04/22/18

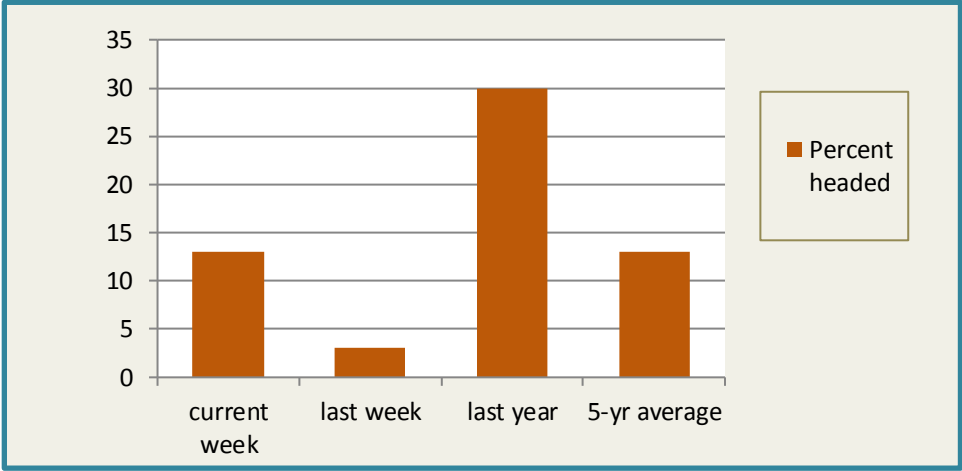
Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Corn planted	32	15	43	35
Corn emerged	2	-	-	-
Cotton planted	3	-	6	2
Potatoes, Summer planted	69	59	73	84
Winter Wheat headed	13	3	30	13

- Represents data not available or zero.

CORN PLANTED for week ending 04/22/18



WINTER WHEAT HEADED for week ending 04/22/18



Weather Summary- For the week ending April 22, 2018

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50)		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to Apr. 21	Mar. 1 to Apr. 21 norm	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	69	39	80	30	54	-1	268	318	1.62	4.92	-1.23	13.58	0.77
Norfolk	66	48	79	41	57	0	271	340	1.13	5.69	-0.77	10.93	-2.73
Richmond	68	43	79	35	56	-1	292	374	1.57	4.31	-1.93	10.16	-2.70
Roanoke	70	41	81	34	55	-1	272	NA	1.44	5.04	-1.26	12.36	-0.25
Wash/Dulles	59	35	71	29	47	-6	185	NA	1.48	3.72	-2.00	10.21	-1.39

* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. NA-Not available. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY – Comments are based on remarks made by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

NORTHERN

ROCKINGHAM (Doug Horn)

Heavy rains caused localized flooding early in the week. Grasses are slowly greening up, but have not produced much growth yet. Rye being cut for silage. Soil temperatures still too cool for planting corn.

FREDERICK (Mark Sutphin)

1.75 to 2 inches of rain received 4-15 to 4-16. Low temps across the county the morning of 4-18 ranging from 24 degrees F to 32 degrees F. Minor reports of damage to blooms on tree fruits (apples, peaches, nectarines, and cherries) in some low lying sites without good cold air drainage.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas Stanley)

The week started with a total of 2.11 inches of rain measured at Lexington. Cool conditions dominated the week with early morning temperatures in the 30's with frost. Pasture growth is behind normal although noticeable green-up occurred this week. Some livestock producers are still offering hay due to short pastures.

BATH/HIGHLAND (John Benner)

Still very cold April. Not much growth in forages.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Laura Siegle)

Pastures are coming along more steadily now. Recent storm brought a hard rain and wind to some parts of the county.

CAROLINE (Mike Broaddus)

Recent showers and one large 2" rainstorm has recharged the topsoil and part of the subsoil, and this week has interfered with corn planting.

FLUVANNA/LOUISA (Charles Rosson)

We had close to 3 inches of rain early in the week. It came down in huge downpours with most running off quickly because our soils are so dry. Very little moisture settled into the topsoil or subsoil regions. The wind blew excessively all week after the rain, drying out the topsoil. Soil temps are too low to plant corn or beans yet.

EASTERN

KING GEORGE (Mike Broaddus)

Recent showers and one large 2" rainstorm has recharged the topsoil and part of the subsoil, and this week has interfered with corn planting.

RICHMOND/WESTMORELAND (Stephanie Romelczyk)

Lots of corn being planted over the weekend, ahead of the predicted rain. Barley just beginning to head.

SOUTHWESTERN

CARROLL (Steve Pottorff)

Pastures have been slow to green up because of cool conditions.

SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)

Strawberries beginning to ripen in selected fields/varieties. Estimate picking within the next 2-3 weeks. Fertilizer and lime have been spread as the weather has allowed for adequate drying.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia Gregg)

Producers have begun spring planting. Some flue cured tobacco producers started planting. Gardens are going in full swing. Drier weather made working and planting in fields better. We will be in need of rain very soon.

GREENSVILLE (Sara Rutherford)

Some fields plowed and bedded for tobacco this week. Hot house vegetables have been planted. Strong storm passed through Sunday night into Monday morning. No damage reported. Pastures are rebounding with rising temperatures.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence Jr.)

Corn planting continues, but seedling emergence is slow with cool soil temperatures. A few strawberry u-pick farms opened for picking for 1 or 2 days per week.